

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0435

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, KS, US

SUBJ: U.S.-ROK TECHNICAL FISHERIES ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 125424

1. AS REQUESTED REFTTEL, EMBASSY DISCUSSED WITH ROK OFFICE OF FISHERIES ADMINISTRATION (OFA) PROPOSED VISIT U.S. OYSTER BIOLOGIST TO KOREA AND PROPOSED VISIT OF KOREAN STATISTICIANS TO NMFS WEST COAST OFFICES.

2. AS DEPT., OF COURSE, AWARE, AID BLOCK GRANTS FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGES ARE NOT ALLOCATED FOR ANY PREDETERMINED, SPECIFIC EXCHANGE VISITS. RATHER, TRanches OF FUNDS ARE PERIODICALLY TURNED OVER TO ROKG MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MOST) WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROGRAMING FUNDS ACCORDING PRIORITIES DETERMINED BY ROKG, IN COMPLIANCE OF COURSE, WITH PROVISIONS OF AGREEMENT.

3. ON BEING INFORMED OF PROPOSED VISIT U.S. OYSTER BIOLOGIST, OFA CONTACTED MOST RE AVAILABILITY BLOCK GRANT FUNDS. WHEN ADVISED BY MOST THAT OFA WOULD HAVE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOCAL EXPENSES, E.G. PER DIEM IN KOREA, TRANSPORTATION WITHIN KOREA, ETC., WHICH OFA ESTIMATED TO AMOUNT TO 600,000 WON(\$1,250), OFA DECIDED

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THAT, CONSIDERING ITS BUDGETARY LIMITATIONS AND OTHER

PRIORITIES FOR FUNDS, IT SHOULD NOT UNDERTAKE THIS
EXPENSE.

4. ONE FACTOR HAVING BEARING ON SITUATION IS THAT OFA
IS APPARENTLY CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING SOME
TECHNICAL ADVICE FROM FRENCH. OFA OFFICIALS MENTIONED
THAT NUMBER OF KOREAN FISHERY TECHNICIANS HAVE
RECEIVED TRAINING IN FRANCE DATING BACK TO FISHERIES LOAN
FROM FRENCH AND ITALIAN GOVERNMENTS
ABOUT 1963. ROKG FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT AGENCY HAS
QUOTE SISTER UNQUOTE RELATIONSHIP WITH INSTITUT
SCIENTIFIQUE ET TECHNIQUE DES PECHEES MARITIME OF
FRANCE. INSTITUTE DIRECTOR CLAUDE MAURIAN RECENTLY
VISITED KOREA AND PROPOSED FURTHER EXCHANGES OF
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL AND OFA APPARENTLY GIVING
SOME THOUGHT TO SEEKING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM FRENCH
ON OYSTERS, AMONG OTHER AREAS.

5. RE VISIT ROK STATISTICIANS TO U.S., OFA HAS DECIDED
TO FINANCE VISIT FROM ROKG RESOURCES RATHER THAN APPLYING
TO MOST FOR AID BLOCK GRANT FUNDS. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF
BUDGETARY LIMITATIONS, THEY ARE PLANNING SEND ONLY
ONE STATISTICIAN INSTEAD OF TWO AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED. VISIT
BEING PLANNED FOR JULY-SEPT. PERIOD, BUT PARTICIPANT NOT YET
SELECTED.
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